

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 85

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 109

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 85—Relative to the Respect for All Project.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 29, 2003.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 85, Kehoe. Respect for All Project.

This measure would commend the Respect for All Project for recognizing the critical need for educational tools that reflect the experiences of children and families of diverse backgrounds; for creating the “Respect for All” film series to celebrate family diversity, and address prejudice, name-calling, bullying, and the formation of stereotypes among youth; for producing the first film for schoolage children that explores a wide range of family types; for offering free diversity training to all school districts within the state; and for encouraging all school districts to incorporate the “Respect for All” series into the curriculum as a way to foster schools that are safe, free of discrimination, and guarantee an equal educational opportunity for all pupils.

WHEREAS, The Respect for All Project, a program of Women’s Educational Media, a nonprofit film production, outreach, and training company, has been at the forefront in producing and distributing documentary films that offer a perspective on paths to economic and social justice, and inspire diverse audiences to put their beliefs into action; and

WHEREAS, “That’s a Family!” the first film in the “Respect for All” series, gives schools an engaging way to be inclusive of all kinds of families and allows children to learn from other children about family diversity; and

WHEREAS, “That’s a Family!” was awarded first place at the National Council on Family Relations Media Awards competition; and

WHEREAS, The Respect for All Project is committed to providing videos, curriculum guides and training at no cost to public schools in California; and

WHEREAS, Collaboration with the Respect for All Project helps public schools meet their affirmative obligation to prevent bias, meet the state’s antidiscrimination goals, and satisfy the state’s constitutional guarantee of safe schools for all pupils; and



WHEREAS, One in two children in the United States will live in a single-parent family during childhood; and

WHEREAS, More than one-half of Americans have been or will be a part of a stepfamily; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 2.4 million grandparents are the primary caregivers for grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, There is an estimated 550,000 children in foster care, an increase of 35 percent between 1990 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, One million children in the United States live with adoptive parents; and

WHEREAS, More than 2.8 million children under the age of 18 and nearly 7 million Americans of all ages identify themselves as multiracial; and

WHEREAS, There are between 6 and 10 million children of lesbian, gay, or bisexual parents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Every parent, educator, and policymaker should be concerned about school violence; and

WHEREAS, In order to achieve a just and fair society, we must teach our children to respect one another, to appreciate our differences, and to recognize the common good in all of us; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate concurring, That the Legislature commends the Respect for All Project, a program of Women's Educational Media, for recognizing the critical need for educational tools that reflect the experiences of children and families of diverse backgrounds; for creating the "Respect for All" film series to celebrate family diversity, and address prejudice, name-calling, bullying, and the formation of stereotypes among youth; for producing the first film for schoolage children that explores a wide range of family types; for offering free diversity training to all school districts within the state; and for encouraging all school districts to incorporate the "Respect for All" series into the curriculum as a way to foster schools that are safe, free of discrimination, and that guarantee an equal educational opportunity for all pupils; and be it further

Resolved, That special public attention be drawn to the Respect for All Project, recognizing its dedication to advancing the cause of equality for all people; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary for Education, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

